

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously amended) A compact package for a garment made from a delicate material comprising:

a container body defining a storage chamber having an open end;

a garment made from a delicate material having an associated uncompressed, loose density, said garment being compressed within the storage chamber of said container body to multiple times the loose, uncompressed density, wherein the garment constitutes hosiery;

a buffer material, separate from the garment, arranged upon the garment within the storage chamber; and

a cover member extending across the open end of the storage chamber to retain the garment and buffer material within the container body.

2. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, wherein the cover member includes a body portion provided with a plurality of openings.

3. (original) The compact package according to claim 2, wherein the body portion of the cover member includes an arcuate base.

4. (original) The compact package according to claim 3, wherein a lower side of the base is convex in shape.

5. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, further comprising: a pull-tab element, attached to the body portion of the cover member, for use in removing the cover member from the storage chamber.

6. (original) The compact package according to claim 5, wherein the pull-tab element is pivotally connected to the body portion.

7. (original) The compact package according to claim 6, wherein the pull-tab element constitutes a ring.

8. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, further comprising: a plurality of projections provided on an upper inside surface portion of the container body, said cover member engaging the plurality of projections within the storage chamber.

9. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, further comprising: a cap member mounted over the open end of the container body.

10. (original) The compact package according to claim 9, wherein the container body is formed, about at least a portion of the open end, with an outwardly projecting lip, and said cap member is formed with a plurality of inner projections, wherein said cap member is snap-fit to the container body with the plurality of inner projections extending about the lip.

11. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, wherein the storage chamber has a total volume of less than 10 in^3 (164 cm^3).

12. (original) The compact package according to claim 1, wherein the buffer material is different from the delicate material of the garment.

13. (original) The compact package according to claim 12, wherein the buffer material is constituted by paper.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously amended) The compact package according to claim 11, wherein the hosiery constitutes a pair of pantyhose.

16. (previously amended) A compact package for a garment made from a delicate material comprising:

a container body defining a storage chamber having an open end, said storage chamber having a total volume of less than 10 in^3 (164 cm^3);

a garment made from a delicate material having an associated uncompressed, loose density, said garment being compressed within the storage chamber of said container body to multiple times the loose, uncompressed density, wherein the garment constitutes hosiery;

a cover member extending across the open end of the storage chamber to retain the garment within the container body; and

a cap member mounted to the open end of the container body over the cover member.

17. (original) The compact package according to claim 16, wherein the container body is formed, about at least a portion of the open end, with an outwardly projecting lip, and said cap member is formed with a plurality of inner projections, wherein said cap member is snap-fit to the container body with the plurality of inner projections extending about the lip.

18. (currently amended) ~~The compact package according to claim 16~~ A compact package for a garment made from a delicate material comprising:

a container body defining a storage chamber having an open end, said storage chamber having a total volume of less than 10 in^3 (164 cm^3);

a garment made from a delicate material having an associated uncompressed, loose density, said garment being compressed within the storage chamber of said container body to multiple times the loose, uncompressed density, wherein the garment constitutes hosiery;

a cover member extending across the open end of the storage chamber to retain the garment within the container body, wherein the cover member includes a body portion provided with a plurality of openings; and
a cap member mounted to the open end of the container body over the cover member.

19. (original) The compact package according to claim 18, wherein the body portion of the cover member includes an arcuate base.

20. (original) The compact package according to claim 19, wherein a lower side of the base is convex in shape.

21. (original) The compact package according to claim 16, further comprising: a pull-tab element, attached to the body portion of the cover member, for use in removing the cover member from the storage chamber.

22. (original) The compact package according to claim 21, wherein the pull-tab element is pivotally connected to the body portion.

23. (original) The compact package according to claim 22, wherein the pull-tab element constitutes a ring.

24. (original) The compact package according to claim 16, further comprising: a plurality of projections provided on an upper inside surface portion of the container body, said cover member engaging the plurality of projections within the storage chamber.

25. (original) The compact package according to claim 16, further comprising: a buffer material arranged upon the garment within the storage chamber.

26. (original) The compact package according to claim 25, wherein the buffer material is different from the delicate material of the garment.

27. (original) The compact package according to claim 26, wherein the buffer material is constituted by paper.

28. (canceled)

29. (previously amended) The compact package according to claim 16, wherein the hosiery constitutes a pair of pantyhose.

30 - 43. (canceled)
